

said Congress ought to have legislated so as to control the speculative propensities of poor frail human nature, instead of placing temptations in the way of those who were always ready to take advantage of the necessities of the Government. He blamed the Government more than the people for its depreciation, and suggested the only feasible plan that we have yet heard offered, viz., that the Government shall levy its taxes at a specie valuation and receive its own promise to pay at what they are worth in the market, or at what the Government has realized on them. He did not claim originality for this plan, as it was suggested to him by the course pursued by the old Texas Republic, in changing her paper issues from Red Backs, as they were then commonly known, to the system of Exchequer Bills, and which, in the course of a few months, brought her currency from 20 cents to 80 cents on the dollar.

We were rather surprised that Judge Oldham omitted to mention the name of General Houston in connection with this measure, as it is well known that to his wisdom and foresight was attributable this favorable change which took place in the condition of Texan finances while he was President of the Republic. Unfortunately there are but few great statesmen of the present day; therefore, we must be content to take lessons from the wisdom and experience of the past.

In his speech, Judge Oldham was frequently applauded, and the expression of his views on the topics he discussed seemed to give every general satisfaction.

Saturday, October 29, 1864
9 o'clock A.M.

Senate met. Roll called. Quorum present. The Journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

The Committee on Education, Mr. Dickson, Chairman, reported a bill to amend the fifth section of an act to incorporate the New Braunfels Academy and recommended its passage.

Mr. Kinsey made the following minority report:

Committee Room
October 28, 1864

To the Honorable F. S. Stockdale, President of the Senate:

The undersigned members of the Committee on State Affairs to whom was referred the joint resolution of thanks

to the Ninth Regiment of Texas Infantry, beg leave to submit the following minority report, viz:

That the said regiment entered the service of the Confederate States in October, 1861, and were shortly thereafter ordered east of the Mississippi River where they soon met the enemy upon the bloody fields of Shiloh and were ordered with two other regiments from sister states to take a battery of the enemy that was hurling a most distracting fire upon our troops and, notwithstanding the Ninth Regiment, was not supported by the other two regiments, they alone took the battery for which gallantry the name of "Shiloh" was ordered to be enscribed upon their banner, and at the battle of Murfreesboro the Ninth Regiment took a battery, and also at Chickamauga for which the name of Murfreesboro and Chickamauga were ordered to be emblazoned upon their battle flag and Perryville, Jackson and Missionary Ridge were also ordered to be enscribed upon their banner for their bravery upon those bloody fields.

We do not intend by adopting these resolutions to make any insidious distinction when all our troops have fought so bravely, but breathes there a Texian "with soul so cold, so dead," as not to look with pride and pleasure upon that banner "if such there be go mark him well," for him we have no sympathy. Then shall we withhold from the gallant Ninth the slight tribute of respect proposed in said resolutions when we can do so without the slightest reflection or derogation upon any other of the gallant and brave regiments of Texas. We cannot add to the honor of the brave and devoted Ninth Regiment for when their banner is unfurled to the breeze and the world beholds enscribed upon it Shiloh, Perryville, Murfreesboro, Jackson, Chickamauga, and Missionary Ridge, all we can say would add but little to its history written upon its folds, but we could say that we, as the representatives of the people, record with pride a slight tribute of respect to the brave and devoted men who have borne that banner through the storms of so many hard fought battlefields; therefore, we recommend the adoption of said resolutions with the following amendment—strike out the words "for its preservation" in the last line of the first resolution and insert the words "as a perpetual monument to their gallantry and patriotic devotion to their country; also amend the 2nd

resolution by striking out the words "many other fields" after the words "Missionary Ridge;" and further amend by inserting the following additional resolution, viz: *Resolved*, That the Governor is requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the colonel of said regiment with a request that he will cause the same to be read on dress parade.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. H. Kinsey

J. B. Davis

Rice Maxey

Mr. Harcourt introduced a bill to enable the legal representatives of the late General Thomas Green to collect by due course of law the cost due him as clerk of the Supreme Court. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Judiciary Committee.

The Committee on Enrolled Bills reported correctly enrolled, properly signed, and presented to the Governor a bill to incorporate Osage Academy.

Mr. Parsons introduced a bill to repeal an act prohibiting owners or employees of slaves from placing them in charge of farms or stock ranches detached or removed from the homes or places of residence of the owner or employer. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Knox was added to Committee on Frontier Defense.

Mr. Durant introduced a bill for the relief of the heirs of Thomas Moore, deceased. Read 1st and 2nd times and referred to Committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Shepard, Chairman of the Committee on State Affairs, reported and recommended the passage of the following bills:

A bill to incorporate the Bastrop Cotton and Wool Manufacturing Company.

A bill supplementary to an act to amend the 3rd section of an act to incorporate the Dallas Bridge Company, approved December 11, 1861, and asked to be discharged from further consideration of the resolution to inquire into the propriety of amending Article 1776 of *Oldham and White's Digest*.

Mr. Durant, Chairman of the Committee on Confederate Relations, made the following report:

Committee Room

October 30, 1864

To the Honorable F. S. Stockdale, President of the Senate:

The Committee on Confederate Relations has considered the accompanying joint resolution, and are of the opinion that any action by the Legislature upon the subject contemplated therein is unnecessary; we therefore recommend their indefinite postponement.

The Committee think they comprehend the object of the move, which is to equalize the burdens of this struggle and cause all alike, irrespective of age, to contribute to the resources of the Army and governments, yet this seeming inequality is not the result of the partial or class legislation on the parts of the Confederate Congresses but is the result of natural and uncontrollable causes which no human power can equalize.

The Committee might argue and illustrate, but deem it too apparent to escape the observation of Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. Durant, Chairman

Mr. Wootten, one of the Committee on Printing, reported a bill to amend the act to regulate publication notices in certain cases and asked that it be referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The Senate then went into Committee of the Whole on joint resolutions concerning peace, reconstruction, and independence. After some time spent therein, the Committee rose and reported progress and asked leave to sit again at 3 o'clock P.M.

Mr. Hartley offered the following resolution:¹⁰

The Senate then adjourned until 3 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M.

Senate met. Roll called. No quorum. Whereupon the Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock A.M. on Monday next.

Monday, October 31, 1864,

9 o'clock A.M.

Senate met. Roll called. Quorum present. The Journal of Saturday was read and adopted.

Mr. Dickson, one of the Committee on the Penitentiary, reported on behalf of the Committee a bill author-

¹⁰This resolution cannot be located in the Archives.